Festival of Camping Guide Drive Climax

A "festival of camping" will climax the Greater Victoria Girl Guides' Association drive to raise $10,000 for the development of a 160-acre campsite near Sooke.

Nearly $1,000 already has been collected in the drive which began the latter part of January, and more is expected before the March 21 festival date, Mrs. A. G. Gosling, Greater Victoria area Guide commissioner, said last night.

H. G. McWilliams, director of the provincial parks branch of the department of recreation and conservation, will open the festival, which is being held in the Bay Street Armory from 2 to 9.30 p.m.

One of the highlights of the festival will be a continuous display of camp activities, put on by Guides, Rangers and Brownies.

Eskimo Igloos Myth Exploded

WINNIPEG (CP)—Contrary to popular belief, Eskimo igloos are not warm shelters against the Arctic cold, says a missionary with 21 years' experience of the far north.

"I've lived in them for months and months, and they are very cold," says Rev. Joseph Choque. "You can't heat them too much or they start to melt."

Father Choque said Eskimos at his Roman Catholic mission at Coral Harbor are moving out of their igloos into wooden frame houses.

One Family, One Apartment

MOSCOW (Reuters)—Work is to start in earnest this spring on Little Moscow, a garden city about 25 miles from the capital planned as a satellite town to ease overcrowding here.

Eventually, the population will be 80,000.

The architects have tried as far as possible to preserve the beautiful wooded country to the northwest of Moscow in which the town will be situated.

"One family, one apartment" is the aim, which will mean almost unknown luxury for Muscovites, used to sharing a bathroom and kitchen among three or four families.

The houses will be laid out in groups which will take into account the natural background.

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Latest U.S. Trend

They Buy Houses And Trade Them In On Newer Models

More and more homes in the northwestern United States are being bought and traded in like cars, according to Victoria architect Roderick Clack.

"The 'owners' never fully pay for them. They just build up their equity until they can trade them on a newer model and increase their debt again," he said.

Mr. Clack, who heads Victoria city's planning and inspection division, said this trend likely was one reason for B.C. being behind Washington and Oregon in building starts.

But, setting aside the comparison with the States, he was optimistic about the pace of building in this area.

Last year was a good year for construction in Greater Victoria, he noted, and present indications were that "it will hold up about the same this year."

He said money for housing was as readily obtainable this year as last.

He was equally optimistic about heavier construction. Starts during the year, he said, were likely to include the Royal Jubilee Hospital extension and the first phase of the shopping plaza at Hillside and Shelbourne.

And, he said, there were prospects of "quite a bit of private development" downtown, contingent on the city proceeding with its own off-street parking and pedestrian mall development.

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Origin of London Law

Buidings Low To Please Queen

LONDON (CP) — It took London more than 60 years to shake off the effect of a queen's distaste for the prying eyes of her neighbors.

The object of Queen Victoria's displeasure was a 150-foot building that went up near Buckingham Palace, offering occupants of the top floors a view of the palace grounds.

The Queen let it be known that she was not amused.

STILL ON BOOKS

Parliament then obligingly passed the London Building Act of 1894, limiting the height of all buildings in London to 100 feet.

The act is still on the books. But when rebuilding operations began after the widespread destruction of the Second World War, the city planners had a word with law-enforcement officers, who quietly agreed to suffer a convenient lapse of memory.

The results have changed the face of London.

Among the hardest-hit areas was the City, the square mile that houses the banking and commercial headquarters of the Commonwealth. More than half its buildings were destroyed or badly damaged.

Today, the grimy, obsolete, poorly heated pre-war structures have been replaced by more than 120 modern office blocks. The new buildings are spacious, centrally heated and in some cases, nearly 300 feet in height.

ALWAYS CRITICS

The city's £40,000,000 face-lift has not been universally welcomed. Its critics say the angular lines of the new buildings have destroyed the character of the ancient quarter.

Probably the overriding argument for the city's land owners is their acute shortage of space. Since there is no room for them to expand horizontally, the alternative is to reach for the sky.

Butchart Schedule Released

In spite of hail and high wind, summer is nearing.

Summer schedules for the famous Butchart Gardens have been announced and that is pretty fair evidence winter is over.

In April and May, the gardens will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. In June, they will remain open 30 minutes later, until night illumination begins early in the month. Hours then will be 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. until end of August.

In September, the closing hour will be 10 p.m., and in October it will be 5 p.m.

Admission will not be charged until April 1. Present hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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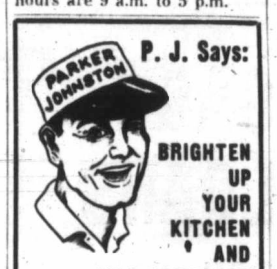

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